

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-15 RSC-01

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DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:ASCHIFFERDECKER/MW

9/11/73 X 29552

APPROVED BY D - MR. RUSH

NEA:LBLAINGEN

NEA/PAB:PDCONSTABLE

S/S:SRGAMMON

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R 122022Z SEP 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KABUL

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 181313

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AF, PK, IR

SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN: RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBORS

1. AFGHAN AMB MALIKYAR PAID COURTESY CALL ON ACTING SECRETARY RUSH SEPTEMBER 10. SCHIFFERDECKER, NEA/PAB, SAT IN.

2. REFERRING TO HIS FAVORABLE IMPRESSIONS OF AFGHANISTAN DURING APRIL VISIT AND STATING USG DESIRE TO MAINTAIN GOOD USG-AFGHAN RELATIONS, THE ACTING SECRETARY EXPRESSED U.S. DESIRE TO SEE GREATER COOPERATION AMONG POWERS IN REGION, PARTICULARLY AFGHANISTAN, PAKISTAN AND IRAN. ON PUSHTUNISTAN, HE (A) ACKNOWLEDGED GREAT DIFFICULTIES IN FINDING SATISFACTORY SOLUTION TO LONGSTANDING ETHNIC PROBLEM, BUT (B) STRESSED ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF POLICY OF COOPERATION RATHER THAN CONFRONTATION; (C) CITED RECENT NEW DELHI AGREEMENT AS ENCOURAGING BEGINNING FOR NORMALIZ-
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ATION OF RELATIONS AMONG POWERS OF SUBCONTINENT AND GOOD

EXAMPLE FOR REGION; AND (D) SAID USG ENCOURAGED BY PRESIDENT DAUD'S RECENT STATEMENTS STRESSING SEARCH FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTION, WHICH HE BELIEVED IN KEEPING WITH WORLDWIDE THRUST OF SEEKING NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF DIFFERENCES.

3. MALIKYAR REPLIED THAT COMMON INTERESTS AND "BROTHERLY

TIES" AMONG POWERS OF REGION OUTWEIGHED DIFFERENCES AND THAT WITH GOOD WILL OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS OF AFGHANISTAN WITH NEIGHBORS CAN BE SOLVED. CONCURRING THAT NEW DELHI AGREEMENT WAS AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE, HE NOTED AFGHANISTAN'S NONALIGNED POLICY OF PEACE WITH ALL NATIONS.

4. ACTING SECRETARY ASKED ABOUT STATUS OF HELMAND WATERS AGREEMENT WITH IRAN. MALIKYAR REPLIED THAT, ALTHOUGH AGREEMENT NOT YET IN EFFECT, HE FELT ENCOURAGED ABOUT HIS GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE BASED ON HIS READING OF DAUD'S AUGUST 23 SPEECH.

5. MALIKYAR EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR U. S. ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN, ESPECIALLY DURING PREVIOUS YEARS OF DROUGHT. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, HE SAID HE BELIEVED THIS YEAR'S CROP WOULD BE GOOD BUT WAS UNCERTAIN WHETHER THERE WOULD BE LARGE SURPLUS. ACTING SECRETARY CONCLUDED MEETING BY NOTING CONTINUING IMPORTANCE U. S. ATTACHES TO AFGHANISTAN DEMONSTRATED BY ASSIGNMENT OF MR. ELIOT AS AMBASSADOR TO KABUL. MALIKYAR REPLIED THAT HIS COUNTRY FORTUNATE TO HAVE ELIOT AS SUCCESSOR TO AMBASSADOR NEUMANN WHOSE GOOD WILL AND UNDERSTANDING HAVE BEEN SO BENEFICIAL OVER PAST YEARS.

6. IN SUBSEQUENT CALL ON NEA ACTING DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LAINGEN, PUSHTUNISTAN PROBLEM AGAIN DISCUSSED. LAINGEN STRESSED USG INTEREST IN INTEGRITY OF PAKISTAN AND ENCOURAGING PROCESS OF RECOVERY FROM 1971 DEBACLE. HE NOTED THAT WE HAVE URGED BHUTTO TO SEEK AMICABLE SOLUTION TO INTERNAL POLITICAL PROBLEMS. HE FELT, HOWEVER, THAT AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN COULD BEST SOLVE DIFFERENCES BILATERALLY WHICH ESSENTIAL FOR RESUMPTION OF REGIONAL
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ECONOMIC COOPERATION. MALIKYAR SAID GREATEST NEED IS FOR DEMONSTRATION OF GOOD WILL BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. AFGHANISTAN DEMONSTRATED ITS GOOD WILL BY DOING NOTHING TO DISTURB PAKISTAN DURING 1965 AND 1971 WARS WITH INDIA. IF PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO COULD REMOVE "IRRITANTS" AND PROMOTE CONCILIATORY SETTLEMENT IN FRONTIER AREAS, IT WOULD CREATE CONFIDENCE IN AFGHANISTAN. PRESIDENT DAUD AND BROTHER NAIM, HE PREDICTED, WOULD RECOGNIZE REALITY ON

THE PUSHTUNISTAN ISSUE, JUST AS PREVIOUS REGIME DID,
PROVIDED THAT ATMOSPHERE OF GOOD WILL EXISTED ON BOTH
SIDES. .RUSH

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